NUMÉRO 3, 1957 NUMBER 3, 1957

COMMUNITY PLANNING NEWS

Destination Vancouver — September 29-30, October 1-2, 1957

Photo: B.C. Government Travel Bureau

National Planning Conference
Hotel Vancouver, Vancouver, B.C.
Principal Theme: The Cost of Urban Growth

The National Planning Conference will be held in the Hotel Vancouver, Sunday to Wednesday, September 29-30, October 1-2. It will begin with an extensive, breath-taking sightseeing tour of the Greater Vancouver area on Sunday afternoon. Later in the conference there will be a special briefing session and field trip to study Vancouver's redevelopment program.

The main theme of the Conference will be **The Cost of Urban Growth,** as viewed by the officials and taxpayers of both large and small communities. The discussion leaders will include elected and appointed officials of municipalities from all parts of Canada and representatives of private development and financing institutions.

(see page two)

Congrès national d'urbanisme
Hôtel Vancouver, Vancouver, C.B.
Thème principal: Les frais de la croissance urbaine

Le Congrès national d'urbanisme aura lieu à l'Hôtel Vancouver, du dimanche au mercredi, 29-30 septembre, 1-2 octobre. Le dimanche après-midi, le Congrès marquera ses débuts par de captivantes visites organisées de Vancouver et de ses environs. A une date ultérieure du Congrès se feront une séance spéciale et une tournée d'inspection en vue d'étudier le programme de rénovation de Vancouver.

Le thème principal du Congrès sera **Les Frais de la Croissance urbaine,** tel qu'envisagé par des fonctionnaires et des contribuables des grandes et des petites villes. Les participants aux discussions comprendront des fonctionnaires élus ou nommés venant des municipalités de

(voir page deux)

NOUVELLES *d'Urbanisme*

Destination Vancouver

(Continued from page one)

Provincial officials—from Newfoundland to B.C.—will also participate.

The "keynote" speaker will be George S. Mooney, Executive Director of the Canadian Federation of Mayors and Municipalities.

Details of the program and arrangements will be given in the next issue of the *News* and, along with advance registration cards, will be sent to members and to others who request them.

Reduced rail fares will be available.

If you have not received a hotel reservation form, write to Community Planning Association of Canada, 77 MacLaren Street, Ottawa 4. If you have the form, we suggest that you send it in at once.

(Suite de la page un)

tout le Canada, ainsi que des représentants d'institutions privées de financement et de développement. On s'attend à ce que des ministres et autres hauts fonctionnaires provinciaux—de Terre-Neuve à la Colombie-Britannique—participent aussi.

L'orateur principal sera M. George S. Mooney, Directeur exécutif de la Fédération Canadienne des Maires et des Municipalités.

Plus amples détails relatifs au programme seront fournis dans le prochain numéro de *Nouvelles d'Urbanisme* et, avec des cartes d'enregistrement, seront expédiés aux membres et autres individus désireux de s'en procurer.

Une réduction sera accordée sur le prix du voyage par chemin de fer.

Si une formule de réservation d'hôtel ne vous est pas encore parvenue, veuillez écrire à l'Association Canadienne d'Urbanisme, 77 rue MacLaren, Ottawa 4. Nous suggérons à ceux qui ont reçu cette formule de bien vouloir la retourner immédiatement.

Post Conference Tour to Victoria and Vancouver Island

Those attending the National Planning Conference in Vancouver, who wish to visit Victoria and Vancouver Island after the Planning Conference (ending October 2nd), may obtain tourist information from the Victoria and Island Publicity Bureau at 786 Government Street, Victoria. We would urge everyone planning such a tour to make his own hotel reservation immediately.

Notice to CPAC Members
Proposed Increase in Fees

The question of increasing membership fees was rather thoroughly discussed at the January Meeting of the National Council of the Association. It was pointed out that the present membership fees had been set when the Association was formed ten years ago, in 1946. Since that time there had been a considerable rise in prices, including printing and other services. It was noted that many other Associations had found it necessary to increase their membership fees within the past few years.

The National Council studied proposals put forward by the National Director, covering both the Active and the Sustaining Membership fees; and both these proposals were approved. The proposals were:

(1) that the Active (individual) membership fee should be fixed at a regular rate of $5.00 per annum, and a student rate of $3.00, effective December 1st, 1957;

(2) that the Sustaining Membership fee be left at $25.00, with provision for up to 6 copies of each magazine to be made available without additional charge to persons listed by the sustaining member, and that each additional listing be charged to the sustaining member at $4.00 each.

The National Council resolved that these proposals for the revision in fees should be put before the 1957 Annual Meeting, on or about October 2nd in Vancouver.

J. M. Laventure, Secretary Treasurer

Advanced Short Course in Community Planning

The Extension Department of the University of British Columbia, in co-operation with the B.C. Division of the Community Planning Association of Canada, the School of Architecture and the Graduate Course in Community and Regional Planning, recently conducted a one week course in community planning at the University. Some of the subjects included were:

Planning Analysis
Planning for Housing; for Commercial Areas and Shopping Centres; for Recreation and Schools; and for Industry, Utilities, Transportation, Traffic and Parking
Municipal Organization for Planning
Tools and Techniques of Land Use Control and Development
Capital Budgeting and Financial Programming
Inter-community Planning Problems and Programs
Planning for Smaller Towns and Rural Municipalities

Interesting features of the Course were the Workshops where students planned new subdivisions and worked on other 'realistic' planning problems. Students also prepared a memorandum such as might be presented to a municipal council, dealing with some of the subjects studied during the Course. These assigned reports were used as the basis of a final discussion.

Photo: Williams Bros.

The Layman in Planning

by J. W. Wilson

"The layman in planning" may seem a peculiar subject for a professional planner. To other planners, it may seem even heretical. So, lest I be accused of begging fundamental questions, let me first state my position on two basic matters.

First, by layman I mean, broadly, anyone who does not spend his full time in the preparation of plans. He may be a city councillor, a planning commissioner, a city engineer or one of a large number of people who participate in the process of planning, but he is not directly responsible for the production of plans. This may not be a foolproof definition, but perhaps it will do as a starting point.

Second – and this is where many professionals would say I am leading with my chin – there is a prior question: "*Should* laymen be involved in planning"? Fortunately I can quote excellent authority for saying "yes" by referring you to a most stimulating address given by Mr. Stewart Bates, President of the Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation, to the Town Planning Institute of Canada in November 1955.* It is not that Mr. Bates says "yes". He doesn't. Much more significant, he takes it completely for granted and in fact, intentionally or not, he seems to imply that the planner rather than the layman is the sorcerer's apprentice. But I need not labour the point. You owe it to yourselves – and every planner even more – to read Mr. Bates' address for your own enjoyment and inspiration. I am content to try to interpret him thus: Planning seeks to prescribe the best physical environment for Life: Life is infinitely varied and changing; as such it cannot adequately be defined for a free, creative people by professional experts; and community life would lose tremendously in vitality and in significance to the people if they did not participate in its planning. "The last and greatest insult one can offer the human race is to regard it as a herd of cattle to be driven to your (i.e. the planner's) selected pasture."

However, having encouraged you thus far there are two caveats which, in all sincerity, I should make. The first is that planning is a very humbling job. If it is conceived widely enough it makes even the most experienced professional doubt his own fitness. If that is so the layman should surely approach it with even greater humility. Secondly, the layman must remember that he also is only part of the team and very often his contribution is more a collective than an individual thing. There is little room for arrogance in community planning. There is no field in which it is more true that "a little learning is a dangerous thing."

Accepting all this, the question now arises "How and what can a layman contribute to planning?" I would suggest the following, some of which he contributes just by virtue of being a layman, some of which call for a definite attitude and conscious effort on his part.

(1) He brings to the planning process a mind unchannelled by training and not predisposed to known solutions. There is much value in this and I think here of a comment once made on an outstanding scientist by another: "He would never have made the original contribution he did to biology if he had been trained originally in biology." In particular the layman is not concerned with techniques but only with end results. Consequently he is not identified with the technical struggle and effort involved in conducting surveys, making analyses and laboriously building solutions. As a result he does not have the emotional identification with the end result, good or bad, which the planner tends to have. Thus the layman should bring to planning a mind more open to valuable first impressions.

(2) Laymen bring to the planning process many kinds of specialized knowledge. It may be local knowledge relating to people, history, weather or soil. It may be knowledge regarding the running of a particular kind of business and the optimum conditions which that requires. It may be knowledge of a special professional kind. But, individually and collectively, laymen often have considerable specific contributions to make.

(3) The layman should consciously bring to his planning task a critical and even sceptical approach. He should continually want to know "why" as well as "how", for many things are done arbitrarily and speculatively in planning without too much enquiry into their effects (and this is not always the planner's fault). Critical questioning will help him not only to make his own judgments but to stimulate the professional and keep him out of mental grooves. In particular he should be curious about basic assumptions and principles, about their authority and validity. He should be completely sceptical about statistics (remember the old saw "lies, damned lies, and statistics"?) and should be constantly probing behind technicalities which the planner of necessity uses and sometimes gets careless about. He must insist on the human realities – not automobiles but the people who drive them, not dwelling units but families and households, and not "land use" but human activities of various kinds.

(4) The layman should be quick to spot and zealous to safeguard his right to what the sociologist calls "value judgments", the things that cannot be proved but are a matter of opinion, of value, of preference. In particular I would include in this judgments as to what the community can afford. No planner has the right to say what a community can afford or what its preference should be between one thing and another. By the same token, the layman alone has the right to decide between real alternatives, and it is part of his duty to see that where possible he is given true alternatives to assess.

The Author

Mr. Wilson is a graduate in civil engineering from Glasgow University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and in city and regional planning from the University of North Carolina. He spent some time with the Tennessee Valley Authority studying its program and methods. Mr. Wilson is now Executive Director of the Lower Mainland Regional Planning Board of British Columbia.

**The Need for an Ideal*, COMMUNITY PLANNING REVIEW, Vol. V, No. 4, December 1955.

(5) I believe that the layman should be preoccupied with human feelings as opposed to purely rational and utilitarian needs. It may well be that the removal of the cable cars from certain streets in San Francisco would increase their traffic capacity three times, but if the San Franciscans feel deeply enough about their cable cars and because of them are more deeply identified with their city, then traffic efficiency becomes a secondary matter. Order, efficiency and economy are not the be-all and end-all of human life, although they must of necessity be normal watchwords with the planner.

Part of this preoccupation with human values must be directed towards insuring that in the struggle between the individual and society over freedom and control, the liberties of the individual shall never be sacrificed lightly or unnecessarily. It is not only that in the long run a free and vigorous people are likely to reject unduly restrictive regulations, or worse still, tacitly ignore them. It is rather that we cannot afford to crush the feeling of freedom or frustrate the urge in Everyman to act, to risk and to create. No amount of order or efficiency can justify more than the minimum interference with the fundamental human forces which build and renew the city. If I were called upon to make a conscious decision between "under-planning", implying a certain amount of disorder and lack of control, and "over-planning", implying greater order and uniformity, I would be in no doubt as to my choice. A well-known American planner, Henry S. Churchill, once put this very well in the following words:

> "I am a firm believer in a reasonable amount of confusion and the opportunity for freedom of action, no matter what. One of my favorite quotations is that of Don Marquis, who said, "This I promise you, that in the Almost Perfect State everyone will have the right to go to Hell in his own way." Allow, in your planning, for the elbow room necessary to do otherwise than what you consider perfection, because you may be, and probably are, wrong in your assumptions as to what perfection is for the other fellow. . . . The best planning, like the best government, is that which is least planned and least governing."

(6) Since planners are already supposed to be dreamers and visionaries who must be carefully restrained, my last duty for you may sound very odd indeed. I want you to see that occasionally, at least, your planner continues to dream and that he gets your support as far as possible. It is true, I think, that a great many planners are genuine idealists whose aim is to produce a more inspiring setting for life. But think of the forces which bear on him day and night, especially if he is a permanent municipal official – financial restrictions, constant criticism and even slander by special interest groups, administrative and technical difficulties, the influence of specialist colleagues, and sometimes, conscious or otherwise, considerations about his standing in the municipal hierarchy, or even his job. No wonder he feels repressed and often gets cynical. But idealism is not easily quenched and often merely lies smouldering until a word of encouragement and support brings it to full flame. So when some proposal catches your imagination, sets you on fire and lifts you out of the morass of nonconforming uses, floor area ratios, and rezoning applications, don't be too ready to douse the flame with the cold water of practicality, pennies and politics. Any idea that can capture you can also capture your community, and a community with an idea may find and surprise itself. Hackneyed as they now are, Daniel Burnham's words to Chicago 50 years ago were profoundly wise: "Make no little plans. They have no magic to stir men's blood . . ."

Now I have defended your right to be involved in planning and have suggested your place in it, without, I hope, attempting to *put* you in it. And I have suggested several principles which, perhaps among others, might guide you. It is true that these will not help you much in examining rezoning cases, but they may help you to bring valuable attitudes to what is, after all, a team job. I wish you luck in your role and hope that you will play it with idealism, humility and perseverance.

Book Briefs

A Plan for Langley. Prepared by Nigel Richardson of the Lower Mainland Regional Planning Board staff. March 1957. 30 pages. Copies available from City Clerk, P.O. Box 489, Langley, B.C. $1.50.

As Part I of 'A Comprehensive Plan for Langley', this report deals with the history of the city, its present day condition and its possible future. Particular problems are stated, and long-range planning policies are outlined. To execute the long-range planning policies, a short-term Five-Year Comprehensive Plan is proposed. It is pointed out that the value of the short-term Five-Year Plan is that at the end of each period the Plan can be reviewed and reworked into a new Five-Year Plan. Development can then proceed in orderly stages.

Part II will describe the practical steps which must be taken to carry out the proposals set forth in Part I, including the detailed technical and legal steps necessary for the implementation and administration of the Plan.

Shopping Centres Re-studied. (Part Two — Practical Experiences). By J. Ross McKeever. Technical Bulletin No. 30 of the Urban Land Institute, 1200-18th Street, N.W., Washington 6, D.C. 166 pages. May 1957. U.S. $5.00. (See **Book Briefs** COMMUNITY PLANNING NEWS No. 2, 1957 for note on Part One.)

The statistical material has been compiled from information received in reply to a questionnaire sent out by the Urban Land Institute. Information regarding type, size and layout of shopping centres has been tabulated and some patterns have emerged. These analyses are of particular interest to those planning and developing shopping centres. It is noted that it has not yet been possible to gather together information regarding the financial structure of shopping centres.

In the second section, case studies have been given, showing practical experience in neighborhood, community and regional shopping centres. In the third section, Dr. Homer Hoyt deals with an analysis of tenancy composition of regional centres. Selected references on Shopping Centres have been included on the final pages.

Financing of Housing and Community Improvement Programmes. Department of Economic and Social Affairs, United Nations, New York. February 1957. 61 pages. Sixty cents U.S. (Available in Canada from Ryerson Press, 299 Queen St. W., Toronto.)

Studies on housing finance, carried out in many countries of the world in the post-war period, have formed the basis of this report. Separate chapters are to be found on Africa, Asia, the Far East, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean area, the Middle East, North America and Oceania.

(Continued on page sixteen)

Editorial Notes

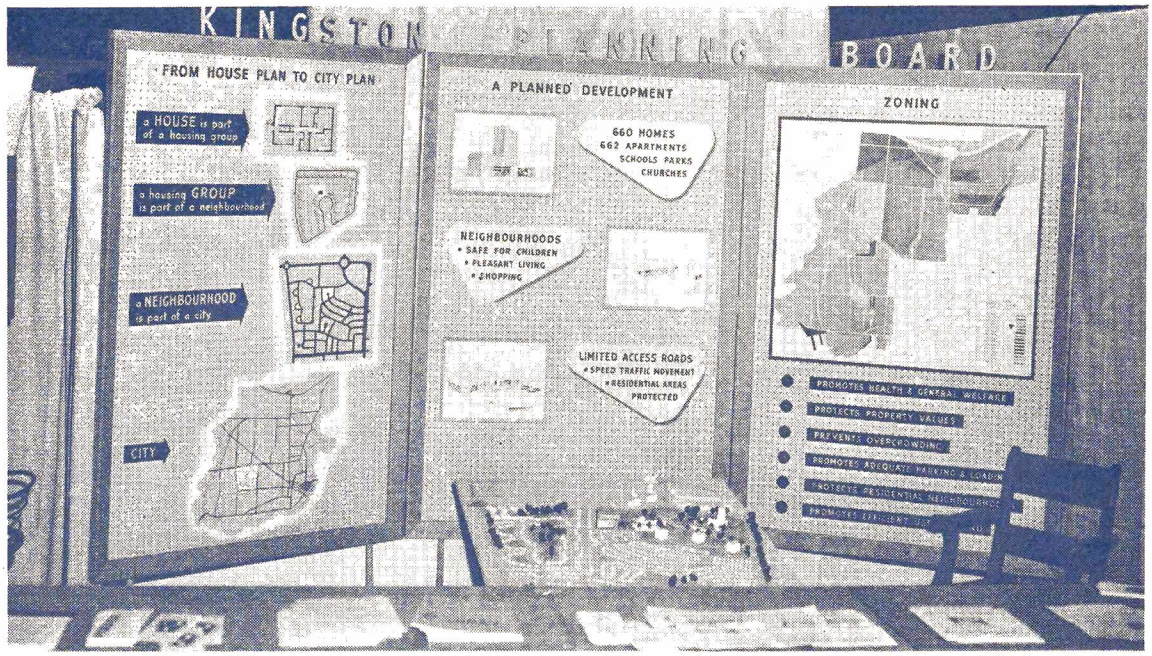


Photo: Herrington

How the Public is Informed: Kingston

Our photograph of the model of the National Capital Plan, with Mr. Walter Bowker's explanatory article, was a leading feature in the last issue of the NEWS.

We now find that the City of Kingston sponsored an exhibit at the recent Kiwanis Springtime Exhibition in the Kingston Community Centre. The highlight was a relief model showing the proposed development of a 200-acre tract of land now owned by the Federal Department of Justice in the City of Kingston but soon to be released for sale. This model prepared by Mr. R. P. Ollerhead, shows the siting of apartment buildings, schools (two public, one separate and one secondary), a church and a civic centre.

As the photograph shows, an attractive set of panels was included; and on the table in front were leaflets and magazines on planning problems. Presiding at the booth was Mr. George Muirhead, Kingston's Planning Officer.

For the information of practical-minded readers, the City of Kingston kindly advises us that the total cost of the exhibit was $275, not including the work done by the Planning Office staff.

Kingston does not yet have an official area-wide citizens' planning group, although it has quite a few individual members of the CPAC. There is, however, a group known as the Protective Park Association of Sydenham Ward, organized to prevent certain threatened encroachments on one of the old but still attractive residential areas. The Planning Board assists this group with information, maps and public speakers.

Abandon the Planning Commission?

The National Municipal League (47 East 68th St., New York, N.Y.) has issued a "Model County Charter"—"a distillation of the most advanced thinking and practice on county government and organization."

While Canadians, with a different constitutional framework, will not find the model applicable in detail, they will be interested in the fact that — "un-American" in tradition as it may seem — no provision is made for a county planning commission. It is explained that, since planning for land use is one of the most important problems of public policy, both in urban areas and in rural areas traversed by extensive highway networks, such planning should be supervised directly by the council. Technical planning work, under the proposed charter, would be done by a director of planning appointed by the county's chief executive with council approval. The director would report both to the chief executive and to the council.

There would, however, be an advisory planning commission of 15 lay citizens who would give the council the benefit of an independent appraisal of proposed planning and zoning policies.

N.B. Controls Fringe Development

One of the most obvious but generally neglected problems in most parts of Canada is the uncontrolled ribbon development along important highways where no town planning authority has jurisdiction.

The Provincial Planning Board of New Brunswick has now adopted a 50-foot setback regulation to apply to all areas where town planning commissions do not operate. (The regulation does not supersede local town planning by-laws.)

Three exceptions to the 50-foot setback are provided in the regulations: (a) private storage garages used for housing motor vehicles, which may be as close as 25 feet from the right of way; (b) a building erected between or immediately adjoining existing buildings may be as near the right of way as the existing buildings, providing the new building's sidewalls are not more than 100 feet from the existing buildings; (c) in subdivisions, buildings or other structures may be as near as 25 feet from the right of way. The Department of Municipal Affairs has indicated that the regulations will be strictly enforced and that no further exceptions will be allowed.

Spotlight on Billboards

New Brunswick apparently intends to see that billboards do not either mar its scenery or endanger the safety of the travelling public. The safety reasons were emphasized in a recent talk at Fredericton by Mr. L. F. Haskey who felt that the aesthetic reasons were less likely to win public support.

Both arguments are being put forward and refuted in a bitter battle of the billboards which is now being waged in the United States as more and more public funds are being earmarked for rights of way and expensive highway construction. The Federal Administration has proposed to the Congress that states which do not conform to a suggested national billboard control policy should be penalized by the withholding of 5% of Federal highway aid allotments. The Administration's bill would set the billboard line back to 750 feet from the curb, experience having demonstrated that some advertisers are not discouraged by the 500-foot limit.

According to a *New York Sunday Times* article on March 24, statistics have been prepared by the Minnesota Highway Department to show that fatal traffic accidents increase as the number of advertising signs increases.

The same *Sunday Times* article not only reproduces the Ogden Nash comment,

I think that I shall never see
A billboard lovely as a tree.
Perhaps unless the billboards fall
I'll never see a tree at all.

but also (with apologies to the Outdoor Advertising Association of America, Inc. – and to Mr. Nash) presents the other side of the controversy thus:

You cannot leash our liberty
Unless you do it locally.
And if you want to stay alive
Read "poster panels" as you drive.

U.S. Municipalities Take the Initiative on Slums

American city officials, like their Canadian counterparts, are constantly drawing attention to the financial plight of the municipalities and demanding that the senior levels of government take a greater measure of responsibility for problems of parallel interest. As Canadians, however, we should note that there is at least one specific field in which U.S. municipalities are at present particularly aggressive in demanding assistance – namely the elimination of slums and blight.

When the U.S. Government announced a cutback in the $250 million urban renewal appropriation, there was a very prompt and decisive response from the cities. The American Municipal Association and the U.S. Conference of Mayors joined in sending a delegation to see President Eisenhower and to resist any slowdown in the slum clearance and urban renewal program. Following are quotations from the Statement to the President by the Mayors of America:

> "Fifteen million Americans live in slum housing in our cities. One out of every ten Americans. The number is growing every year. The human misery and degradation is something the richest country in the world should not tolerate.
>
> "As Mayors, these vast numbers are personal to us. They are our biggest everyday problems, too big for us to handle alone. Slums are our number one problem and perhaps the Nation's number one unsolved domestic problem." . . .
>
> "The inflation argument is without merit. Federal urban renewal appropriations are one-quarter of one per cent of the federal budget. Cash outlays are a fraction of this. The impact on the national economy, therefore, is negligible." . . .
>
> "The choice cannot be escaped. Year by year the slums spread, growing worse and larger and gradually destroying our cities. Either we have an effective national program of urban renewal big enough and strong enough to do the whole job, or we face the municipal ruin Mr. Cole [U.S. Federal Housing Administrator] has so well described.
>
> There is no standing still."

Let us note particularly that the Mayors recommended specifically:

"A policy decision by the Administration that slums and blight across the country must be eliminated in a given period of time, say 10 years, by a program of the same scale and completeness as the new federal highway program."

"Appointment of a new presidential advisory committee, with full representation of mayors and other municipal representatives to study and recommend a national workable program, designed to eliminate slums and blight throughout America with federal and local cooperation."

"We Shall Be Right Here When They Explode"

Starting with some fascinating data on output per man-hour and shorter hours of work in the MONTHLY LABOR REVIEW (U.S.) for November 1956, "DOH" (it could be Dennis O'Harrow) devotes an ASPO NEWSLETTER editorial to some "speculating" on the amount of leisure time people may have 25 years from now, due for example to

(1) a 30-hour work week;
(2) a number of four-day holiday week-ends;
(3) longer paid vacations;
(4) extension of "sabbatical leaves" to non-educational workers.

What will this mean, asks DOH, in terms of traffic safety? the need for parks and open spaces in our metropolitan areas? the need for municipal marinas (pity the city fathers – parking problems on water as well as on land!)? the further despoilation of our vacation lands (Americans are already pushing pretty far north in Canada to find "unspoiled" lakes)?

"Increased leisure", says DOH, "means, perhaps more than anything else, increased travel. Translate this into automobiles, highways and traffic and you soon have a situation that is frightening."

"We have a history of being surprised at the difficulties our rapid technological changes get us into. We still lament horse and buggy streets in an automobile culture. Perhaps we may be excused for not having foreseen the 1957 mess when it was brewing in 1904. But I don't believe we can continue to live on apologies and put the blame on our fathers. For in truth, the problems of leisure are not only generating in our own time, but we shall be right here when they explode."

The Extent of Urban Planning

Early in 1956, the Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation invited municipalities in urban areas (including metropolitan regions) having 5,000 or more inhabitants to prepare information (a) as to their use of Planning Boards, Planning Staff and Planning Consultants; (b) as to how much, if anything, they spent annually on planning services; and (c) indicating whether or not they had "official plans" in force or, if not, whether they had official plans in preparation. The 390 municipalities responding to the questionnaire represent about 19 out of 20 of the "urban" Canadians as defined by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

show, in relation to population, a greater interest in staff help in the western provinces than elsewhere, although Boards or Commissions are common there too. There is a marked contrast between Ontario and Quebec municipalities, those in Ontario having many more lay boards and professional staff, and those in Quebec relying considerably upon private consultants – both provinces spending about the same total amounts.

(3) In respect to "official plans", Ontario and Quebec appear to have made about the same degree of progress, such plans, as reported, being "in force" in about one-third of the municipalities reporting.

RECAPITULATION OF REPORTS **RÉSUMÉ DES RAPPORTS**

Region *Région*	No. of municipalities surveyed *N. de municipalités au relevé*	Main Source of Advice *Source principale d'information*			No. of Professional Employees *N. d'Employés professionnels*	Spent in Year *Dépenses annuelles* $	Official Plans *Plans directeurs*	
		Board *Commission*	Staff *Personnel*	Consultants *Conseillers*			in preparation *en préparation*	in force *en vigueur*
Atlantic	36	13	3	0	8	56,000	18	13
Québec	137	26	15	40	47	766,000	70	44
Ontario	145	69	14	26	77	756,000	73	49
Prairies	37	26	8	7	48	285,000	17	19
B.C.	35	23	8	10	26	236,000	21	12
	390	157	48	83	206	$2,099,000	199	137

These figures of course do not include the staffs and budgets of Provincial or Federal agencies, or of company towns.
Ces chiffres ne comprennent ni le personnel ni les budgets des services provinciaux ou fédéraux, ni des centres d'habitation construits pour les employés.

The NEWS has asked CMHC for permission to publish a résumé of the information received. Although this information is now more than a year old, it will give our readers some idea of the progress reached in planning activity at the municipal level. Undoubtedly some urban municipalities engaged in planning failed to respond, and many rural municipalities active in planning were not surveyed. It is hoped to continue the survey on a constant base to show the rate of growth of planning activity. A more up-to-date compilation should be available soon.

The following features seem to stand out in this 1956 survey:

(1) The total amount of money spent on planning activity by all reporting municipalities was only about $2 million – almost infinitesimal on a per capita basis and hardly likely to raise a storm of protest by the taxpayer, unless by way of complaint that more is not being attempted.

(2) A few more than 200 professional people (as defined by the municipalities in answering the questionnaire) were on municipal staffs. Of these, 77 were in Ontario; 47 in Quebec; 48 in the Prairies; 26 in B.C.; and only 8 in the Atlantic Provinces. These figures

Provincial Planning Conference in New Brunswick

New Brunswick's second Provincial Conference on community planning took place in Fredericton on May 28th at the invitation of the Provincial Government. The 75 people who attended from many parts of the Province spent a very full day at meetings.

The speakers and subjects included Messrs. R. P. Lynch (Highway Development), L. F. Haskey (Signs and Billboards), Murray Zides (Subdivision Control), A. J. Cameron (Provincial Park Development) and R. A. Stevens (Building Codes). At the luncheon, Stanley H. Pickett, Urban Redevelopment Officer of the Community Planning Association of Canada, spoke on *Planning, Urban Renewal and the Citizen*. At the dinner, the Honourable A. E. Skaling, Minister of Labour and Acting Minister of Municipal Affairs, spoke on problems of municipal finance.

The first Provincial Conference on Planning took place in 1955.

Extraits de notes éditoriales relatives au *Numéro de Québec*

L'Action Catholique, Québec

Notre province s'enlaidit
par Charles Pelletier

La Revue Canadienne d'Urbanisme vient de consacrer un numéro spécial à la province de Québec. La situation qu'on y décrit n'est pas de nature à nous rendre très fiers.

Bien entendu, le but des articles, dessins et photos qui composent ce cahier n'était pas de vanter le charme de "la belle province". Il s'agissait plutôt d'alerter l'opinion québecoise, d'attirer l'attention sur les différents facteurs qui tendent à avilir notre patrimoine de beauté, en entravant le développement rationnel et harmonieux de nos villes et villages. Cet objectif sera-t-il atteint? Il faut l'espérer. Car la conclusion très nette qui se dégage de ce formidable document, c'est que notre province s'enlaidit, qu'elle s'enlaidit à un rythme aussi rapide que celui de sa croissance économique, ce qui n'est pas peu dire.

Non pas, bien sûr, que cette croissance soit en elle-même une calamité. Le mal, c'est que nous n'avons pas su la prévoir et l'ordonner convenablement, dans ses implications physiques et sociales. Nous avons été surpris et bousculés par les événements. Le désordre était déjà installé en maître quand nous avons pris conscience du problème. . . .

Dans l'état actuel de notre législation, l'urbanisme relève à peu près exclusivement des administrations municipales. Or, celles qui s'en préoccupent sérieusement sont encore l'exception. Le tiers seulement des villes de 10,000 âmes et plus possèdent des plans directeurs. Dans les villes plus petites, la proportion tombe à 20 pour cent. Notre individualisme, notre esprit de clocher, le morcellement de notre territoire en une infinité de petites municipalités rendent très difficiles, sinon impossibles, la conception et l'application de plans d'urbanisme sur une échelle suffisamment vaste. Et même là où de tels plans existent, les résultats ne sont pas toujours brillants, comme le démontre une photo de la nouvelle silhouette de Québec publiée dans la revue.

Notre province s'urbanise à une vitesse hallucinante, sans que rien ne contrôle efficacement cette croissance. Tout se fait au petit bonheur, sous le signe de l'improvisation, au gré des spéculateurs et des intérêts particuliers. Ce manque de prévoyance entraîne fatalement la dépréciation du patrimoine public et des propriétés privées. Il en coûtera beaucoup plus cher pour réparer le mal, si tant est qu'il est réparable, qu'il n'en aurait coûté pour l'empêcher. Que l'on songe, par exemple, à ce que représente l'extension des services publics dans une agglomération qu'on a laissée grandir au hasard des circonstances et des initiatives individuelles!

A ceux qui préconisent une législation plus efficace, la création de structures organiques pour orienter l'aménagement de notre territoire sur le triple plan provincial, régional et municipal, on répond que l'opinion n'est pas suffisamment prête, qu'il est impossible de rendre obligatoire un état d'esprit et que nos lois actuelles sont déjà trop peu comprises et appliquées. Il y a du vrai dans tout cela. Et il est bon qu'on laisse la plus grande mesure possible d'autonomie aux administrations municipales qui veulent s'acquitter pleinement de leurs devoirs. Mais là où l'initiative locale fait défaut, l'Etat ne doit-il pas y suppléer? Et peut-on raisonnablement attendre de la masse l'effort de synthèse, la direction éclairée qui nous permettraient de sortir du désarroi actuel?

Le temps presse, car au dire des meilleurs économistes, notre croissance se poursuivra avec le même élan au cours du prochain quart de siècle. Une politique dynamique en matière d'urbanisme n'est nullement incompatible avec le respect des autonomies locales et de l'initiative privée. Et même si l'opinion a paru incapable jusqu'ici de formuler et d'imposer une telle politique, ce serait une erreur d'en conclure qu'elle n'en voit pas la nécessité et qu'elle n'est pas prête à l'accepter. Il faut comprendre que le peuple est lui-même médusé par un développement économique qui bouleverse son mode de vie et ses habitudes sociales. Il ne demanderait pas mieux que d'y voir clair et d'appuyer les directives de ceux en qui il a mis sa confiance. Mais si l'on continue de tout attendre de lui, cette prolifération désordonnée du tissu urbain, que l'on a très justement assimilée à un cancer, ne manquera pas de se généraliser. Et ce progrès matériel, qui pourrait être en Nouvelle-France l'occasion d'un extraordinaire épanouissement, n'aura abouti qu'à la dépersonnalisation de notre province et à l'asphyxie de ses forces vitales.

Le Soleil, Québec

L'Urbanisme à Québec. Une vieille maison: un fardeau trop lourd pour son propriétaire.

Le partage des responsabilités entre les gouvernements et les individus est essentiel à la conservation du patrimoine historique de la ville de Québec, suivant deux spécialistes en matière d'urbanisme, MM. Edouard Fiset et Roland Bédard, qui viennent de publier un article fort intéressant sur "le Québec Historique", dans la Revue Canadienne d'Urbanisme, publiée à Ottawa. Cette chronique a déjà dit que toute cette dernière édition était consacrée à la province de Québec, ses richesses et ses problèmes de conservation.

Pour l'individu qui a hérité d'une vieille maison à Québec ou qui l'a achetée, c'est un fardeau très lourd que d'entretenir et rénover au besoin tel monument, et ce particulier devrait avoir droit à des compensations de la part du trésor public, que ce soit au plan municipal, provincial ou fédéral. Les auteurs de l'article font le partage de ce qu'ils croient être les responsabilités relatives mais ils ajoutent que l'expropriation massive n'est ni plausible ni désirable. Il demeure préférable que le propriétaire reçoive une compensation financière pour l'excédent de frais entraînés dans les réparations, ou pour les limites qui peuvent être imposées à l'exploitation de tel immeuble.

L'Evénement-Journal, Québec

Le cachet du Québec historique

L'Association Canadienne d'Urbanisme profite de son étude sur notre province pour consacrer plusieurs pages de sa Revue à la ville de Québec et à son caractère historique; elle s'inspire de quelques-unes des considérations du rapport des architectes-urbanistes Edouard Fiset et Roland Bédard sur l'aménagement de la Vieille Capitale pour signaler les principaux éléments qui composent le cachet historique de la cité et présenter dans des illustrations appropriées les traits distinctifs qui en font une ville unique en son genre sur notre continent. Le geste de l'Association mérite d'être porté à l'attention de la population qui lui en saura infiniment gré.

L'initiative est d'autant plus louable qu'elle porte sur la conservation des édifices historiques dont la ville est remplie et sur les mesures qui s'imposent pour les préserver soigneusement comme de précieuses reliques du passé. Les autorités municipales en sont saisies et le mouvement a donné lieu à la fondation de la Société de Conservation du Vieux Québec qui s'est acquis des adhésions empressées en haut lieu et des sympathies profondes au sein de la population. Déjà, l'administration de la ville s'est engagée à respecter le cachet distinctif des vieux quartiers et de la section historique comprise entre les murailles, afin de garder tous ces bâtiments vieux d'un siècle ou deux qui ont encore fière allure pour les présenter à la génération actuelle comme les vestiges d'une époque ancienne dont Québec tire sa célébrité.

La Parole, Drummondville

Montréal et le . . . désert

Feu l'hon. P. J. A. Cardin, dont chacun se souvient, ne négligeait jamais une occasion de dire que, à son jugement, la province de Québec était un véritable monstre au point de vue économique, avec une tête gigantesque sur les épaules: Montréal; un nombril quelque peu prédominant: Québec; et un corps grêle: le reste du territoire. . . .

Les campagnes, les villages, les petites villes se désertent en effet à un rythme accéléré au profit de la grande ville . . .

Comme c'est le cas pour l'Ontario, si nos petits centres stratégiques comme Granby, Sorel, St-Hyacinthe, Drummondville, Montmagny, Rivière du Loup, Rimouski, Matane, Lac Mégantic, Gaspé, Chicoutimi et quelques autres avaient une population économiquement stable variant de 50,000 à 100,000 âmes et même davantage, l'équilibre économique de la province de Québec ne serait-il pas meilleur? N'y aurait-il pas de mieux-être partout? Et surtout peut-être dans les localités rurales, qui dépendent des agglomérations pour leur subsistance.

Or, pendant que Montréal se développe à pas de géant, que neuf sur dix des nouvelles manufactures s'y établissent, nos petits centres, pourtant avantageusement situés, offrant une main-d'œuvre stable et laborieuse, des avantages indéniables, nos petits centres végètent, tirent tant bien que mal leur épingle du jeu, et même périclitent en certains cas. Un exemple: il y a déjà eu quelque 10,000 salariés à Drummondville; aujourd'hui, il n'y en a guère plus de 7,000. Le même cas existe pour plusieurs autres petits centres.

A Montréal, le nombre des salariés a presque doublé depuis 10 ans. Il était, au dernier rapport officiel, de 407,546 comparativement à 765, 579 pour toute la province.

Il y a dans cette anomalie, il nous semble, une lacune très grave et qui devrait enfin attirer l'attention de ceux qui ont entre leurs mains les destinées de notre vie économique, aussi bien à Ottawa qu'à Québec.

Il s'agirait tout simplement de favoriser, de faciliter, d'aider l'établissement des nouvelles entreprises industrielles, manufacturières, dans les petits centres facilement accessibles par terre ou par eau.

On verrait alors une transformation de notre vie économique et toute la population, aussi bien rurale qu'urbaine, y trouverait son avantage.

M. Jean Cimon, dans la Revue Canadienne d'Urbanisme, parle de "Montréal et le désert québecois". C'est ce qui se réalise de plus en plus.

Il faut être complètement aveugle ou aveuglé pour ne pas s'en apercevoir, ne pas s'en convaincre.—A.R.

The Journal, Ottawa

Urgent Need of Town Planning

More and more, Canadian cities now in the throes of unprecedented expansion, are giving thought to better urban planning.

This fact is sharply outlined in the Quebec number of the Community Planning Review. . . .

Among the many examples of faulty planning are mentioned "careless modernization", the needless destruction of fine old buildings, the indifference to increasing water pollution and the crowding of river banks with industrial establishments. One of the articles mourns the passing of the typical picturesque Quebec village, source of pride to its inhabitants and of admiration by visitors. Another deplores what is termed the "vertical growth" of cities and its attendant problems. Planning of some of Quebec's new mining towns is criticized for lack of foresight and many are the constructive suggestions as to how such towns can be developed into healthy and happy communities.

In a foreword Quebec Municipal Affairs Minister Paul Dozois warns that town planning is a matter which must be approached "with infinite precaution" and at the same time pledges the interest and aid of the province to municipalities embarking on planning projects.

Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph

Urban Cancer Draws Planner's Blast

The Community Planning Review pays tribute to the Province of Quebec in its March issue which is devoted to a series of articles by residents of the Province of Quebec dealing with this highly interesting subject. But if the Review, which is published by the Community Planning Association of Canada, pays a compliment to Quebec, the writers are, for the most part, far from complimentary.

In general, there is severe criticism for the lack of planning which has gone into the development of Quebec's villages, towns and cities. The strongest criticism comes from the pen of Jean Cimon, professor in the faculty of Surveying and Forestry Engineering at Laval University, who at times waxes quite caustic against what he calls "Urban Cancer". . . .

The several articles are eye-openers. They serve as a reminder that town planning is necessary if the growth of the province is not to be strangled by haphazard and unsatisfactory building. Municipal officers throughout the province should scan every word of this Review with infinite care.

Le Nouvelliste, Trois-Rivières

Le problème d'urbanisme des villes moyennes est urgent

L'attention des Trifluviens est depuis longtemps éveillée à l'urbanisme. Alors que d'autres centres ont été favorisés par une expansion considérable et ordonnée au cours des années dernières, notre ville a connu des succès et certains revers. Elle court le risque de perdre son rang et son prestige au milieu des autres villes du Québec. Trois-Rivières est devenue un cas typique de ville moyenne. Dans un article publié par la Revue Canadienne d'Urbanisme, l'économiste Pierre Camu parle des villes moyennes du Québec comme d'un "problème urgent d'urbanisme". . . .

Il faut donc attaquer le problème de front. Il s'agirait d'abord de réunir les conseils de municipalités, villages, villes et cités qui forment un tout urbain et proposer la création d'un comité d'urbanisme métropolitain, voire régional. Il s'agirait ensuite de confier à une équipe de spécialistes le soin de préparer un plan directeur qui devrait diriger les autorités locales au cours des prochaines vingt-cinq années. Cette partie est déjà en opération dans la cité des Trois-Rivières. Il s'agirait d'en étendre le rayonnement, et cette partie ne semble pas avoir été ignorée dans la ligne de conduite tracée par les autorités municipales aux urbanistes présentement au travail.

Enfin, quelle serait la première phase active, la précédente n'étant que préliminaire? "Proposer une législation adéquate qui donnera à ce comité (d'urbanisme, mentionné plus haut) le pouvoir d'empêcher de construire n'importe où, n'importe quand et n'importe comment, et le pouvoir de proposer et de surveiller avec la collaboration d'autres services municipaux la construction et l'expansion en général."

"Organiser un programme d'éducation populaire sur la région métropolitaine en vue de renseigner et d'éveiller les citadins au problème général d'une région métropolitaine qui croît sans surveillance à la périphérie et étouffe au centre."

Il s'agit ensuite de surveiller les permis de construction et dresser un programme de rénovation en commençant par réaliser les points les plus faciles du plan directeur. On voit que notre plan directeur actuellement en voie de préparation peut et devrait s'étendre à la région métropolitaine. Les besoins actuels et l'exemple du passé devraient nous inciter à considérer un tel projet avec largeur d'esprit.

Notre Temps, Montréal

Un véritable urbanisme s'impose dans le Québec
par Charles Pelletier

En matière d'urbanisme, par exemple, nous avons été littéralement débordés par les événements. L'aspect physique de notre province se modifie à un rythme hallucinant, et pas toujours pour le mieux. Le désordre qui s'y installe reflète dans bien des cas le désarroi des esprits.

Dans un numéro spécial consacré au Québec, la REVUE CANADIENNE D'URBANISME essaye de faire le point. Elle constate l'enlaidissement progressif de nos villes, de nos villages et de nos routes. Elle montre que sans un vaste effort d'orientation et de synthèse, notre progrès matériel risque d'aboutir à la dépersonnalisation de notre province, à l'oblitération rapide de ce qui en fait le caractère et l'originalité.

Le Soleil, Québec

L'urbanisme à Québec constitue un problème difficile à résoudre, par Gérard Morin

L'urbanisme dans la ville de Québec présente des problèmes infiniment compliqués, au dire des experts qui ont fouillé la question.

C'est un sujet vaste qui n'est pas facile à résoudre, comme en fait foi un article publié ces jours derniers à Ottawa, par MM. Edouard Fiset et Roland Bédard, tous deux urbanistes de notre ville et disciples ou collaborateurs de M. Jacques Gréber. On sait qu'un rapport sur le *Québec Historique* a déjà été soumis par ces trois experts à la cité de Québec. A Ottawa, la dernière livraison de la REVUE CANADIENNE D'URBANISME publie des constatations de MM. Fiset et Bédard sur le sujet. Il est intéressant d'en tirer certains extraits, dans l'intérêt des lecteurs que préoccupe l'urbanisme et la conservation de nos trésors historiques dans les vieux murs de Québec. Notons que l'édition de la revue est totalement consacrée au Québec. . . .

Selon l'expression des auteurs de l'article de la revue, l'aménagement de Québec ouvre un champ particulièrement vaste et varié tant aux urbanistes qu'aux administrateurs.

L'Action Catholique, Québec

Montréal et le désert québecois

. . . L'agglomération montréalaise, avec ses satellites, a déjà drainé vers elle le tiers de la population de la province et les trois-quarts de son activité commerciale et industrielle. D'après le mémoire présenté à la Commission Gordon par l'Union des Municipalités, on y comptera dans 25 ans plus de 3,300,000 âmes. Ce pompage des ressources humaines et matérielles tend à faire du reste du territoire québecois un véritable désert.

Par exemple, sur la rive sud du St-Laurent, entre Lévis et l'extrémité de la péninsule gaspésienne, on compte très peu d'industries importantes. Comme il s'agit d'une région de forte natalité, son surplus de population doit constamment émigrer vers des centres plus dynamiques. Ce n'est pas Québec, avec ses 17,000 chômeurs et son économie déficiente, qui peut agglutiner ces masses humaines. Celles-ci vont rejoindre les industries là où elles s'établissent.

La vitalité économique de l'Ontario tient en grande partie à un meilleur équilibre. En plus de Toronto, qui est loin d'avoir les dimensions de Montréal, on y compte plusieurs agglomérations de cent mille âmes et plus, dont la stature reste tout de même à l'échelle humaine, et qui se partagent harmonieusement les sources d'énergie, les établissements commerciaux et industriels, ainsi que les organes de vie culturelle et artistique. . . .

C'est le développement des ressources minières de la Côte-Nord qui a rendu possible la canalisation du St-Laurent. Raison de plus pour ne pas oublier les besoins de l'est de la province. Il ne faudrait surtout pas que la réalisation de ce gigantesque projet accentue encore davantage une concentration industrielle qui a inspiré à M. Jean Cimon, dans la REVUE CANADIENNE D'URBANISME, cette formule saisissante où s'expriment si bien les tendances de notre géographie humaine et économique: "Montréal et le désert québecois".

Le Nouvelliste, Trois-Rivières

Le "cancer urbain" envahit la rive du Saint-Maurice

L'urbanisation accélérée à laquelle nous assistons présentement dans la province comporte apparemment plus de dangers que de bienfaits. Pour que nous en retirions tous les avantages sans risquer de succomber sous ses effets maléfiques, il faut recourir à toute la science de l'aménagement et de l'administration des villes. Malgré tout, ces dernières sont vouées à une irrémédiable laideur, parce que l'effort humain s'acharnera d'abord à faire disparaître toute trace de la nature après quoi son génie utilitaire s'emploiera exclusivement à répandre la banalité, l'ennui, l'uniformité ou le disparate avec une constance et un acharnement dignes d'une meilleure cause.

C'est ce qu'un urbaniste de Québec, M. Jean Cimon, nomme le *Cancer urbain*. "Deux symptômes généraux annoncent la présence du cancer urbain: la destruction de la nature et la spéculation frénétique du sol."

"L'invasion massive de la nature par le domaine bâti ou par toute autre activité urbaine, est généralement suivie, à brève ou à longue échéance, d'une destruction systématique: voyons l'exemple de la rivière St-Charles à Québec qui est devenue un égout à ciel ouvert, dont les eaux fangeuses empoisonnent le Saint-Laurent jusqu'à l'île d'Orléans, souillant les grèves de Sainte-Pétronile et sonnant le glas de cette station estivale. Quant aux berges de la Saint-Charles, elles ont été scalpées de toute végétation et encombrées d'ignobles dépotoirs".

On n'y changerait que les noms de lieux et on posséderait une description parfaite de l'acharnement avec lequel on s'est employé à détruire, salir, infecter le voisinage du Saint-Maurice. . . .

Du pied du promontoire jusqu'au Saint-Maurice, une vaste étendue entièrement boisée, demeurée à peu près intacte jusqu'à la pose du nouvel égout collecteur (le troisième) au cours de l'hiver, a déjà été en partie défrichée et nivelée. Lorsque la suggestion a été faite de conserver intacte cette lisière boisée qui aurait offert aux Trifluviens la possibilité d'aménager presque sans frais un extraordinaire parc forestier, on a prétendu qu'il s'agissait d'un marais dont la valeur était infime. Quand on aura fait du nivelage, qu'on aura abattu tous les arbres et effectué le lotissement de ce terrain, l'urbanisation sera complétée. On y construira des habitations et Trois-Rivières aura perdu sa dernière chance d'aménager un beau parc ainsi qu'une promenade comme il n'y en aurait pas eu dans la province de Québec.

Pour couronner un si bel effort, il y aura évidemment notre nouvel égout qui se déversera juste devant cet élégant secteur domiciliaire. Les fumées âcres du dépotoir viendront planer au-dessus de cette agglomération urbaine où l'on aura, comme toujours, mêlé le meilleur et le pire. Rien de bien original dans ce processus. L'homme ne fait que détruire la nature et laisser des traces de son incurie. A Québec, on ne déplore pas seulement la profanation de la rivière Saint-Charles, mais aussi la disparition du Bois Gomin et l'enlaidissement de la Côte de Beaupré. La rive ouest du Saint-Maurice était demeurée intacte jusqu'à ces dernières années. Nous achevons d'assassiner le dernier reste de forêt qui restait encore en nos murs. Et personne ne prend sa défense.

International Federation for Housing and Town Planning

Many Canadians – as well as Canadian organizations – would be glad to enjoy the benefits of membership in the International Federation for Housing and Town Planning. With a headquarters in Amsterdam, this non-governmental organization exists to promote throughout the world the study and practice of housing and urban, rural and regional planning and community development in order to advance higher standards of living, the improvement of cities and a better distribution of population.

There are several kinds of membership: (1) individual members; (2) voluntary associations; (3) public bodies. Each of these classes of members receive a quarterly *Newsletter*, announcements of all publications and notices of all meetings.

Canadian members in the Federation now include the Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation and the Community Planning Association of Canada. It seems likely that many more professional and civic bodies, as well as government agencies – and also many more individuals – would belong if they were aware of the opportunity to join and the convenience of sending a dollar cheque in payment of membership dues. For that reason we are providing a form on this page which may be used for either personal or organizational membership subscriptions.

Canada is represented on the governing Bureau of the IFHTP by Mr. H. S. M. Carver; and, under Mr. Carver's Chairmanship, CPAC's National Council has established a liaison committee to cooperate with the Federation and its various committees. This liaison committee consists of the following members, in addition to Mr. Carver, *Chairman*: A. H. Armstrong, *History of Housing and Planning;* C.-E. Campeau, *Traffic;* G. A. P. Carrothers, *Research in Planning;* W. T. Lane, *Planning Legislation;* George S. Mooney, *Municipal Government;* Stanley H. Pickett, *Urban Redevelopment; Gordon* Stephenson, *Professional Education;* Eric Beecroft, *Secretary of the Committee* (c/o CPAC, 77 MacLaren St., Ottawa 4).

The President of the IFHTP is Erik Rolfsen of Norway; the Secretary General is Dr. H. van der Weijde and the Business Manager is Miss Julie H. van Kempen. Mr. Lewis Mumford of the U.S.A. is an Honorary Vice-President.

In the summer of 1958, a Congress will be held in Liège, Belgium, where the topics will include Slum Clearance and Rehousing; National Land Planning; Housing Density; Urban Land Policy.

Special Committees of the Federation are concerned with: Rent and Family Income; Housing Societies; the Professional Planner; Regional Planning for Undeveloped Areas; and Education for Town Planning.

FOR IFHTP MEMBERSHIP, Detach and Mail the Coupon below, along with your Canadian dollar cheque, (your personal cheque if you wish), directly to

International Federation for Housing and Town Planning,
123 Laan Coppes van Cattenbuch,
The Hague, Netherlands

(Coupon from Community Planning Assoc. of Canada, Ottawa 4)

Please enrol the undersigned as

☐ Individual Member
Minimum dues: $4.10 (Can.) $ .....

☐ Voluntary Association
Minimum dues: $8.20 (Can.) per 200 Members, up to $48.00 per 1,000 or more members $.....

☐ Public Body
Minimum dues: $12.50 (Can.) $ .....

Name (print).....

Address.....

Affiliation.....

Berlin Congress

A Congress of the International Federation for Housing and Town Planning will be held in Berlin, August 23-30, 1957.

The main theme of the Conference will be *Acquisition and Planning of Land in Urban Reconstruction.* There will be local inspection tours under professional guidance, as well as a Post-Congress Study Tour to Hannover, Kassel, Frankfurt, Cologne and Düsseldorf, August 30—September 6. For further information, write CPAC, 77 MacLaren Street, Ottawa 4.

La responsabilité en matière d'urbanisme

Dans l'état actuel de notre législation, c'est sur les conseils municipaux que pèsent toutes les responsabilités en matière d'urbanisme. Et le tiers à peine des villes de 10,000 âmes ou plus ont des plans directeurs d'aménagement. Encore, ces plans sont-ils rarement appliqués avec méthode et détermination. Il n'existe aucune coopération organique entre municipalités d'une même zone métropolitaine. Il y a bien au ministère des Affaires municipales quelques spécialistes que les administrations locales peuvent consulter lorsqu'elles en ont le goût, mais nous attendons encore le conseil provincial d'urbanisme qui pourrait prendre la direction du mouvement, dresser des plans sur une échelle plus vaste, coordonner et susciter au besoin les initiatives particulières.

Charles Pelletier, dans ***Notre Temps,*** Montréal.

Responsibility for Planning

Under our present legislation, the entire responsibility for urban planning rests upon the local councils. Scarcely a third of our cities of 10,000 or more have master plans, and these plans are rarely applied with care and determination. There is no organized cooperation between the municipalities in a metropolitan area.

There are indeed in the Department of Municipal Affairs a number of experts whom the local governments may consult when they care to do so, but we still await the provincial planning council which could take the direction of the movement, prepare plans on a grander scale and encourage and coordinate individual initiative.

Translated from an article by
Charles Pelletier, in ***Notre Temps,*** Montréal.

The Provinces and Housing

A series of nine lectures on various aspects of housing and urban planning was given recently at Carleton College, Ottawa. One of the lecturers was Mr. J. S. Hodgson of Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation, who lectured on *Government Aids in Housing*. The main part of his address naturally dealt with the participation of the Federal Government, but Mr. Hodgson also gave some information on provincial and municipal participation.

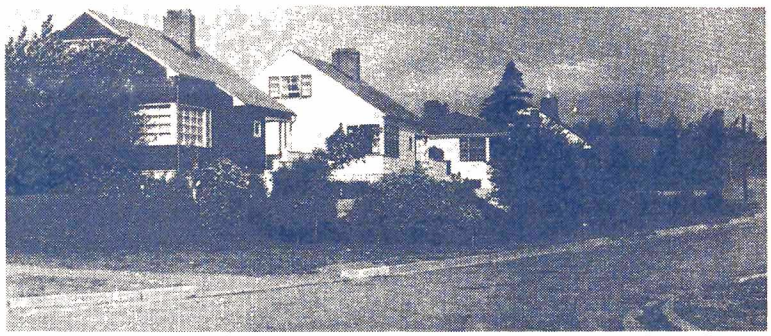
The Provincial Role

Mr. Hodgson said that in Canada the constitution allocates to the provinces the direct responsibility for property and civil rights and for all matters of a local nature. The cities and towns were therefore creatures of provincial law, and under provincial regulation.

He went on to point out that many provincial activities have an indirect effect upon housing. Provinces contribute to the building of schools, trunk roads and sometimes other roads; they may guarantee municipal debentures or make grants toward local government costs; they may extend, curtail or direct the exercise of municipal powers. "Books have been written on the various provincial planning acts", said Mr. Hodgson, "so for the present suffice it to say that most provinces have such acts, that the acts formulate the local planning procedures and that some provinces are also engaged in regional planning. Provinces have different sets of electrical and health regulations that affect the construction and use of houses and apartments. Last year the Ontario Water Resources Commission was established with power to construct and operate water supply and sewage disposal systems or to assist municipalities in financing their construction; the activities of such a commission can have important effects upon housing."

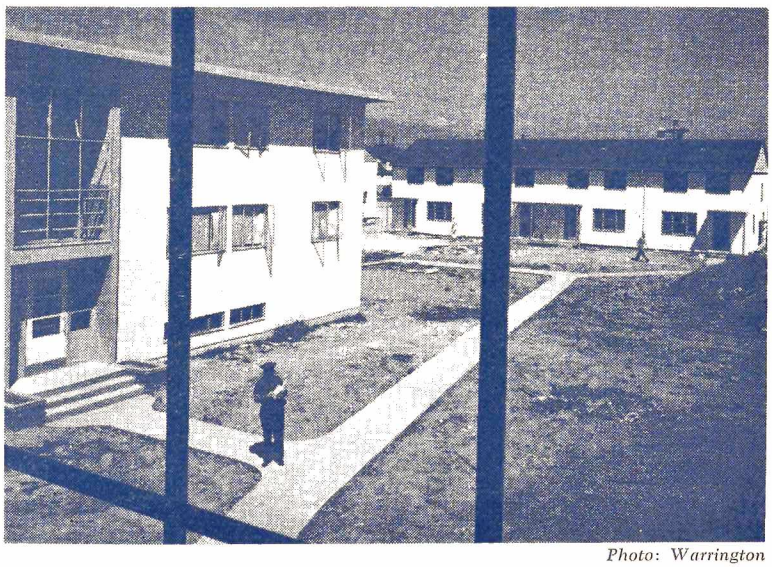
Mr. Hodgson then turned to a description of financial aids by provinces to housing, and emphasized that again variety was the keynote. He stated that in May 1948 the Ontario Government passed a law offering home-buyers or owner-builders second mortgage loans covering half their down payment, subject to a maximum of $1,250. Loans totalling $16½ million were made to fifteen thousand persons, but, after twenty months, as National Housing Act loans had meanwhile been increased, the Ontario plan was ended.

"Present provincial aids take the form of loans, grants or investments," he continued. "On the whole they are



Churchill Park, St. John's — Homes built for sale by St. John's Housing Corporation.

Photo: Garland



Little Mountain, Vancouver — Homes built for rent by the Province of British Columbia in conjunction with the Federal Government and the City of Vancouver.

Photo: Warrington

not extensive, but they are not lacking in interest. Nova Scotia has had a Housing Commission since 1934. It makes mortgage loans to housing co-operatives under an agreement with the federal agency. The Commission supervises the activities of the co-operatives, and helps to instruct their members. About 600 dwellings have been built under this plan. The Province of Newfoundland also supervises and assists co-operatives, and provides them with temporary financing during construction until mortgage funds become available."

Provincial Grants and Investments

Mr. Hodgson explained that in the Province of Quebec assistance to new home-owners was in the form of an outright grant, and that under an act passed in March 1948 the Province offered an interest subsidy to owners of moderate-cost new homes. Payment is made twice a year and has the effect of reducing the mortgage interest rate by 3% a year. A new home-owner may thus find that his carrying charges are reduced by perhaps $15 per month. As the payments are calculated on outstanding principal, they gradually taper off. Since the inception of this scheme, the Province has committed grants to 35,000 persons in an average amount of $2,100 each. These grants are not available to owners of properties financed under the National Housing Act.

Mr. Hodgson went on to say that British Columbia also offers grants. "Under an Act passed in 1956 the Province may contribute a grant of up to one-half the net cost to a municipality of a project approved under the NHA for clearance of a slum or sub-standard area. No projects have so far developed under this legislation.

"Four of the provinces offer grants toward the cost of low-rental housing for the aged. British Columbia makes grants of one-third of construction cost, thereby helping to cut rentals. In Ontario, a grant of up to $500 per dwelling is available to cover half the equity of a limited dividend company. This means that in Ontario a limited dividend company receiving a provincial grant and a federal loan will need in cash just 5% of the cost of a project for the aged. In Saskatchewan, the provincial aid comprises a lump sum of one-fifth of initial cost and also an annual operating grant of $40 per dwelling. Finally, Manitoba has recently passed legislation offering grants of $350 for each suite built for a pensioner."

Newfoundland was cited as the only Province having sole ownership of public housing. St. John's Housing Corporation, a provincially owned body, has about 150 rental apartments and has built and sold about 400 houses.

In concluding his remarks on provincial participation in housing, Mr. Hodgson said: "The only other form of direct investment by provinces in the housing field is in the form of Federal-Provincial projects of rental housing or land assembly. Under the National Housing Act, a province entering into partnership for a project is responsible for the provision of 25% of the necessary capital, and shares profits or losses in the same proportion. Part or all of this 25% share may be passed on to the municipalities. To date, projects have been undertaken in six provinces – Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Ontario, Saskatchewan and British Columbia."

Coloured Slides Available on Urban Renewal

Any Secretary who has tried to put on a program on urban renewal, using any form of visual aid will know that these are very few in number. In an attempt to create an immediate available supply of visual material, the Urban Redevelopment Officer is preparing a number of slide lectures. These take the form of from twenty-five to forty 35 mm. coloured slides arranged in series and accompanied by a fairly full commentary. Each commentary will indicate the exact position at which the slides should be shown and it should be possible to present an interesting lecture, even if the person reading the commentary is not familiar with the details of the subject. Discussion sheets on each lecture will be prepared.

The first of these slide lectures is now available. It is entitled **"Cleveland—a Planned Renaissance"** and consists of twenty-seven slides with commentary, illustrating an extensive urban renewal program of that city, with particular reference to the Longwood and Garden Valley renewal projects, which are two of the largest in the United States.

The second slide lecture, to be entitled **"Slums — Their Social and Economic Effects"** is in course of preparation and will be available towards the end of July.

Anyone wishing to obtain these lectures on loan may do so upon application to the National Office.

Mental Health Aspects of Urbanization. Report of Panel Discussion at the United Nations, March 1957. Participants: Brock Chisholm, J. F. Rees, Margaret Mead, Eric Beecroft, Carl Feiss. Published by World Federation of Mental Health. A few copies are available at CPAC, 77 MacLaren St., Ottawa. $1.00.

COMMUNITY PLANNING ASSOCIATION OF CANADA

President: **C.-E. Campeau**
Director: **Eric Beecroft**
Secretary Treasurer: **Miss J. M. Laventure**
Urban Redevelopment Officer: **Stanley H. Pickett**

NATIONAL OFFICE:
77 MacLaren Street, Ottawa

DIVISIONAL OFFICES:

Newfoundland	**Law Library, Court House, Duckworth St., St. John's**
P.E.I.	**c/o J. C. Mountain, Summerside**
New Brunswick	**c/o Town Planning Commission, Moncton**
Nova Scotia	**2 Shirley St., Halifax**
Québec	**C.P. 131, Place d'Armes, Montréal**
Ontario	**32 Isabella St., Toronto**
Manitoba	**223 Curry Bldg., Winnipeg**
Saskatchewan	**P.O. Box 731, Regina**
Alberta	**14019-122B Ave., Edmonton**
British Columbia	**1205-736 Granville St., Vancouver**

The Association as a body is not responsible for the statements made or the views expressed by individuals writing or reported in this NEWS.

OPENINGS IN COMMUNITY PLANNING

CITY OF OSHAWA PLANNING BOARD, OSHAWA, ONTARIO. Planning Director. Salary dependent on experience and ability of the applicant. Qualifications: must have the necessary professional qualifications with actual experience in planning and in presenting and supporting planning ideas before the public and municipal councils. Duties: to take full charge of the Department and provide the creative ideas upon which the Board can base its decisions. This position has excellent possibilities for the future. Application should be made in writing to: Charles C. McGibbon, Q.C., Chairman, City of Oshawa Planning Board, City Hall, Oshawa, Ontario. (26-57)

TOWNSHIP OF NORTH YORK (TORONTO), ONTARIO. Assistant Planner. Salary: $4420-$5200 depending on qualifications. Degree in planning or related field; preferably with experience in subdivision control and neighbourhood planning. Apply: J. K. Curtis, Planning Director, Township of North York, 5000 Yonge Street, Willowdale, Ontario. (20-57)

HAMILTON WENTWORTH PLANNING AREA BOARD, HAMILTON, ONTARIO. Assistant Planner. Salary range "G"—$4200-$5200 or as amended. Starting salary commensurate with previous experience and ability. Applicant will be required to assist the Planning Director in the work of the Board on Official Plan and current projects. Previous experience in town planning, but educational background will be considered as a substitute. A graduate of a recognized university possessing a degree in one of the following subjects: regional planning, landscape design, geography, architecture, civil engineering or other allied socio-economic field. Applicants should have a personality capable of maintaining good public and personnel relations and should be capable of carrying out responsible work under general guidance. Apply: Director, Personnel Department, City Hall, Hamilton, Ontario. (18-57)

CENTRAL MORTGAGE AND HOUSING CORPORATION, HEAD OFFICE, OTTAWA, ONTARIO. Town Planners. Required in the Architectural and Planning Division at Head Office in Ottawa for work in connection with the Corporation's activities across the country in redevelopment, housing projects and the planning of northern townsites. Applicants should possess a University degree or equivalent in Architecture or Engineering, with experience in physical planning. A post graduate course in Town Planning would be an advantage. Applications stating age, marital status, education, details of experience and salary expected, together with the names and addresses of three referees are to be addressed to the Supervisor, Personnel Dept., Head Office, Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation, Ottawa. (21-57)

ALBERTA PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT, EDMONTON, ALBERTA. Research Assistant—Town and Rural Planning Branch, Department of Municipal Affairs. Salary: starting at $4,740 to $5,220 and rising to $6,600. Qualifications: Degree in Planning or Degree in Sociology, Geography, Architecture, Engineering or Economics with post-graduate training in Planning. Preference given to applicants with regional training and experience. Duties: To carry out specialized research for local authorities or District Planning Commissions. Undertake province-wide research on the factors affecting development of individual centres and regions. Visit and advise local authorities on particular planning problems. Conduct planning surveys and prepare planning reports for existing small towns, and carry out surveys and design layouts for new towns. Applications should be made in writing or in person to F. D. Betts, Director of Personnel, Room 404, Legislative Bldg., Edmonton, Alberta. (19-57).

CITY OF WINDSOR, ONTARIO. Planning Director. Salary: $6365-$8102. Degree in planning or related fields and 2 years or more experience in actual planning or administration of Planning Department or 5 or more years experience in planning. Experience in urban renewal preferred. [illegible] will depend on applicant's experience. Apply: J. B. A[illegible]y Clerk, 149 Chatham Street West, Windsor, Ontario. [illegible]-57)

TOWNSHIP OF TORONTO PLANNING BOARD, COOKSVILLE, ONTARIO. Land Use Planner. Salary dependent on qualifications, training and experience. The Board requires a Planner capable of designing subdivisions, housing layouts, site plans for shopping centres and other community facilities, in addition to large scale land use planning. A basic knowledge of road and traffic engineering most desirable. Undergraduate training in Architecture, Engineering or a related field with post graduate training in Planning and some experience required, although other combinations would be considered. Application forms available from: M. J. Bacon, Director of Planning & Secretary-Treasurer, Box 430, Cooksville, Ontario. (23-57)

METROPOLITAN TORONTO PLANNING BOARD, TORONTO, ONTARIO. Subdivision Administrator. Salary: $6,397-$8,529. Must have extensive knowledge of principles of Land Subdivision, City Planning and Local Administration, ability to write reports and supervise subordinates. Master's degree in Planning or related fields or equivalent experience. Apply in writing to: M. V. Jones, Commissioner of Planning, 133 Richmond St. West., Toronto 1, Ontario. (24-57)

CITY OF REGINA, SASKATCHEWAN. Town Planners. Salary: $4,914-$6,272. Starting salary dependent on experience. Qualifications and Experience: applicants should be qualified Architects, preferably with a planning qualification and some years of planning experience in a Planning office. The work involved is of an interesting nature and comprises: subdivision design; neighborhood planning; major urban renewal; comprehensive housing survey and preparation of overall plan for the entire area. Applicants are expected to have superior design ability and to be able to direct and supervise work under their appropriate section as well as being actively engaged on draughting work. The office of the Planning Department is in the process of reorganization and the above Post offers splendid opportunities for technical personnel desirous of enlarging experience in all phases of planning work. Apply: Director of Personnel, City of Regina. (22-57)

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT, PROVINCE OF ONTARIO. Zoning Administration and Research Personnel. Salary will be dependent upon length and character of Planning experience. Salary range for Assistant Planner — $4,050-$5,000, Planner — $5,000-$6,000. The responsibilities of the Department of Planning and Development in respect to zoning include the administration of provincial legislation, assistance of communities in preparing zoning by-laws as part of their planning programme, preparation of research studies and the dissemination of research material to planning boards and committees of adjustment within the Province. The applicant should have a university degree and at least 2 years responsible experience in planning. Part of the planning experience must be in the field of zoning administration and research. Apply in confidence with snapshot to: c/o A. Cameron, Province of Ontario, Dept. of Planning and Development, 454 University Avenue, Toronto, Ontario. (10-57)

TOWNSHIP OF ETOBICOKE, TORONTO, ONTARIO. Planning Engineer. Salary commensurate with qualifications and experience. Qualifications: Degree in Planning or in allied sciences such as Geography, Economics, Civil Engineering, with at least two years experience in planning field. Duties will involve the application of technical training and experience in conducting land use studies and the general plan for Township development. Apply: Personnel Director, 4941A Dundas St. W., Toronto 18, Ontario. Belmont 1-4161. (17-57)

DEPARTMENT OF MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS, HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA. Director of Planning. Salary dependent on qualifications. Duties will be mainly discussing all phases of Community Planning with Municipal Councils and advising and assisting Municipalities in this field including preparation of official plans and zoning. Applicant should have degree in civil engineering, architecture or planning and at least three years experience in Community Planning work. Applications should include age, education, experience, salary expected, date available and two references. Apply to: W. E. Moseley, Deputy Minister of Municipal Affairs, Halifax, Nova Scotia. (25-57)

SASKATCHEWAN DEPARTMENT OF MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS, REGINA, SASKATCHEWAN. Community Planning Advisor. Salary: Applied Sciences – $364-$459 or Social Sciences – $350-$442. Requirements: For applied sciences position, University graduation in Community Planning or alternately in civil engineering or architecture with courses or experience in community planning work. For social sciences position, University graduation in honours economics, sociology or geography, preferably supplemented by courses or experience in community planning. Duties: to do professional community planning work for the Department's Community Planning Branch. Application forms available from Public Service Commission, Legislative Bldgs., Regina, Sask., and should be submitted for immediate consideration. (27-57)

CORPORATION OF THE DISTRICT OF KITIMAT, BRITISH COLUMBIA. Economic Planner. Salary: $530 to $660 per month, depending on experience. Qualifications: Degree in economics, sociology, planning or allied fields, with at least three years practical experience. Duties: To undertake long range planning studies, and establish a capital budget programme. (28-57)

Architect Planner. Salary: $530 to $660 per month, depending on experience. Qualifications: Degree in architecture with some practical experience in Town Planning. (29-57)

Landscape Architect. Salary: $480 to $590 per month, depending on experience. Qualifications: Degree in landscape architecture with at least two years practical experience. (30-57)

Reply, with full information as to education, experience, personal data and references to: The Corporation of the District of Kitimat, Box 400, Nechako Postal Station, Kitimat, British Columbia.

Recent Planning Appointments

THE CORPORATION OF THE DISTRICT OF SAANICH announce the appointment of **Mr. David Deeprose** as **Planning Administrator and Designer.** Mr. Deeprose was previously employed as Chief Draftsman in the Engineering Department of this municipality. He previously spent several years working with a B.C. Land Surveyor in the City of Victoria.

The appointment of **Mr. W. Wronski,** effective March 1st, as **Planning Director** for the TOWNSHIP OF ETOBICOKE is announced by Mr. F. R. Longstaff, Chairman of the Township of Etobicoke Planning Board. From 1950 to 1955 Mr. Wronski was the Senior Assistant Planning Officer for the London County Council, London, England, and since his arrival in Canada in 1955 has been the Senior City Planner for the City of Toronto, in charge of the Long Range Planning Division.

THE COMMUNITY PLANNING BRANCH OF THE ONTARIO DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT announces the appointment of **Mr. J. F. Brown** as a **Planner.** Mr. Brown has previously been with the Housing Branch of the Department of Planning and Development, and brings with him a considerable knowledge of and experience with urban renewal. Mr. Brown is a graduate of the School of Social Work and of the Planning Course at the University of Toronto.

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF RICHMOND advise that **Mr. William Kerr** was recently appointed to the position of **Town Planner** for the Municipality of Richmond. Prior to that Mr. Kerr was with the Planning Department of the Township of North York for four years, the last two years of which he was the Assistant Director of Planning.

The LETHBRIDGE DISTRICT PLANNING COMMISSION has just appointed **Mr. S. J. Clarke** of London, England, to the position of **Director of Planning.** Mr. Clarke is a graduate of Durham University.

The NORTH YORK PLANNING BOARD has informed us of the appointment of **Mr. John K. Curtis** of Ottawa, Ontario, as **Director of Planning.** Mr. Curtis is a Professional Engineer, having graduated from Queen's University in Civil Engineering in 1941. Subsequently he obtained the Master's degree in Public Health Engineering from the University of Toronto. His early professional work was with the Sanitary Engineering Division of the Ontario Department of Health. Since 1948, Mr. Curtis has been employed by the City of Ottawa in various capacities. For five years he was in work involving public health and planning problems associated with the development of fringe areas.

Mr. R. Thompson, formerly Director of the Medicine Hat District Planning Commission has accepted a position as **Director** of the BILLINGS, YELLOWSTONE, CITY-COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION in Billings, Montana. Mr. Thompson has been retained as **Consultant** by the DISTRICT PLANNING COMMISSION IN MEDICINE HAT to assist in the implementation of the Master Plan which was completed just before he left.

The METROPOLITAN TORONTO PLANNING BOARD has informed us of the appointment of **Mr. Peter Martin** as **Assistant Planner Grade II.** Mr. Martin worked as an Appraiser for Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation in Halifax and Moncton for 2½ years. He is at present completing his Diploma course in Town Planning from the University of Toronto. Mr. Martin is an Associate of the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors specializing in Valuation.

The CITY OF TORONTO PLANNING BOARD has informed us of the appointment of **Mr. H. N. Lash** as **Senior Planner.** Mr. Lash was formerly Director of Town and Rural Planning for the Government of Alberta. He is a graduate of McGill University and a former lecturer in geography at the University. Mr. Lash began service with the Government of Alberta in 1950.

Mr. John Steel has been appointed **Director of Planning** for the CITY OF REGINA, SASKATCHEWAN. Mr. Steel received his Architectural training at the Glasgow School of Architecture and is an Associate of the Royal Institute of British Architects and an Associate of the Town Planning Institute. He was formerly employed as Deputy Chief Architect (Planning) with the Ministry of Health and Local Government, Belfast, Northern Ireland, for ten years and also held the position of Planning Appeals Inspector.

Book Briefs (Continued from page four)

Neighborhood Planning, by V. Joseph Kostka. January 1957. 160 pages. Obtainable from the author at the University of Manitoba, Community Planning, Winnipeg 9. $4.00 per copy.

Professor Kostka defines the neighborhood as an 'urban unit with a functional arrangement of its environmental elements'. The neighborhood street pattern, shopping centre, school and recreation areas, zoning and density are carefully considered in the opening chapters. The book then goes on to deal with mixed developments, layout systems and subdivision design. By the use of more than fifty illustrations, including plans, diagrams and charts, the author provides the reader with examples of the particular land uses under discussion. In the final chapters, four projects have been selected to afford the reader an opportunity of expressing his opinion on various aspects of neighborhood design. The author's own solutions have been included separately in the final pages of the book.

Population and Housing. Report Number 2. Chicago Plan Commission. December 1956. 31 pages.

This staff report developed out of increasing concern with relocation as one of the major problems of urban renewal. National as well as local experience is reviewed and tentative recommendations are made.

Greater Winnipeg 1981. A Study of Population Growth. Metropolitan Planning Commission of Greater Winnipeg. April 1957. 29 pages, with appendices.

The purpose of the study is to provide information as to the future possible population growth of the seven municipalities which comprise Greater Winnipeg. The report also shows, by diagram, the areas that are likely to be developed during the next five to ten years and the possible direction that development may take after that time.

The Negro Population of Chicago, by Otis Dudley Duncan and Beverly Duncan. University of Toronto Press. 1957. 367 pages, with appendices and bibliography. $6.00.

This work provides much interesting material for city planners and other civic leaders in areas where the segregation of ethnic groups presents problems of urban policy. Starting with the founding of Chicago, it traces the growth of the Negro population from 1900 onward, when the heavy migration to the city first became evident. Now one person in every six in the city is a Negro. As a result, Negroes have gradually moved into areas formerly occupied by white residents. Even with this 'moving-in' process, a 'piling up' of people in sub-standard housing has resulted. Vital questions of urban renewal and public housing are involved.

Metropolitan Toronto 1957. April 1957. 33 pages, illustrated. This brochure has been compiled for the Metropolitan Council by the staff of the Metropolitan Toronto Planning Board.

It contains up-to-date information on all metropolitan services for which the Toronto Metropolitan Corporation is responsible. These include assessment, water supply, sewage disposal, roads and transportation, education, health and welfare services, the administration of justice, housing, licensing, police, planning, parks, civil defence, finances and the acquisition of assets from local municipalities.

It is noted that the function of the Metropolitan Planning Board, whose authority extends over the metropolitan area and all adjoining townships, is to prepare an official plan for the metropolitan area, the general scope of which is to include land uses, ways of communication, sanitation, green belts and park areas and public transportation.

Charts and graphs, prepared in very interesting form, show comparable figures over a period of years.

Community Planning NEWS
NOUVELLES *d'Urbanisme*

Editor: Eric Beecroft
Assistant Editor: Miss J. M. Laventure

MEMBERSHIP

If you are not a CPAC Member and you wish to receive the *Community Planning News*, the *Community Planning Review* and other Members' Publications, write to the

Community Planning Association, of Canada

77 MacLaren Street, Ottawa 4

enclosing $3.00 at par in Ottawa for Active Membership for 12 months from date.

Mr. Stewart Fyfe,
Dept. of Political Science,
Queen's University,
Kingston, Ont.

Authorized as Second Class Mail, Post Office Department, Ottawa